

## Message Text

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46

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:CREDMAN

APPROVED BY S/S-O:JHOGANSON

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O 041849Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

COMSIXTHFLT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130137

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

04 JUN 75:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5535

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS IMMEDIATE USCINCAVEUR, COMSIXTHFLT,  
DOD/ISA, CNO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI EG

SUBJECT: SUEZ CANAL CEREMONIES: USS LITTLE ROCK PARTICIPATION

REF: STATE 128798 (NOTAL); PARA 4 CAIRO 5347

1. AS OF 1500 LOCAL TODAY, NO ONE IN MFA, MINWAR  
OR SCA COULD YET CONFIRM TO US THAT EGYPTIANS WILL  
IN FACT MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY OR TOMORROW ON  
LITTLE ROCK'S PARTICIPATION IN TOMORROW'S CEREMONIES.  
ALTHOUGH GAMASY MENTIONED THE POSSBILITY TO ME A FEW  
DAYS AGO (CAIRO REFTEL), I GATHER HE TOLD ALUSNA YESTERDAY  
NO ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE. FOR PAST FEW DAYS  
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EGYPTIANS HAVE BEEN IN STATE OF UTTER CONFUSION GETTING READY

FOR SUEZ CANAL OPENING, AND MY GUESS IS THAT THEY HAVE NOT FOCUSED FURTHER ON THE MATTER OF ANNOUNCING LITTLE ROCK'S PARTICIPATION. FONMIN'S CHEF DE CABINET, AL-BAZ, HAS AGREED TO MAKE FURTHER INQUIRIES AND LET US KNOW IF AN ANNOUNCEMENT IS TO BE MADE.

2. ASSUMING EGYPTIANS MAKE NO PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT, FACT OF LITTLE ROCK'S PARTICIPATION WILL BECOME KNOWN TOMORROW MORNING. IF QUERIED AT THAT TIME BY DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES, AND OTHERS, I AM INSTRUCTION EMBOFFS TO RESPOND THAT A) GOE ASKED FOR SUCH PARTICIPATION A FEW DAYS AGO AND USG ACCEDED; B) SINCE ORGANIZATION OF SUEZ REOPENING CEREMONIES SOLELY MATTER FOR EGYPT TO DECIDE, USG SAW NO REASON ASK IF OTHER FOREIGN WARSHIPS WOULD ALSO PARTICIPATE, AND C) GOE DID INDICATE FOREIGN NAVAL VESSELS THAT HAD ENGAGED IN SUEZ CANAL CLERANCE WOULD NOT RPT NOT PARTICIPATE IN FORMAL OPENING CEREMONIES, HENCE USS OPPORTUNE (LIKE BRITISH AND FRENCH MINE HUNTERS) IS NOT A PARTICIPANT. BEYOND THIS, ANY FURTHER QUERIES WILL BE REFERRED TO GOE FOR WHATEVER REPLY IT CARES TO GIVE. EILTS UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NAVAL FORCES, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES, SUEZ CANAL, LITTLE ROCK USS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE130137  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:CREDMAN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750195-0787  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750681/aaaacvvv.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 128798, 75 (NOTA PARA 4, 75 CAIRO 5347  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SUEZ CANAL CEREMONIES: USS LITTLE ROCK PARTICIPATION  
**TAGS:** MILI, EWWT, EG, US  
**To:** CINCUSNAVEUR COMSIXTHFLT  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006